

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 IO-03

DPW-01 PRS-01 PA-01 AID-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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R 181312 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3371

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 10922

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MILI, VC

SUBJECT : DAILY MR 3 SITREP 18 JUNE 1973

FOLLOWING MSG REC FROM AMCONSUL BIEN HOA ON JUNE 18 ACTIIN
EMBASSY SAIGON INFO USDAO SAIGON USSAG NKP REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

C O N F I D E N T P A L BIEN HOA 0211

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT MILI VC

SUBJ: DAILY MR 3 SITREP - 18 JUNE 1973

1. MR 3 G-2 REPORTS LIGHT MILITARY ACTIVITY DURING 24 HOURS
ENDING 0800 JUNE 18. FIFTEEN INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED -- FOUR
LIGHT HARRASSING ATTACKS BY FIRE (ALL UNDER FIVE ROUNDS, NONE
CAUSING CASUALTIES), SEVEN GROUND CONTACTS (BETWEEN RVNAF
PARTOLS AND COMMUNIST UNITS), ONE GROUND- AIR INCIDENT (FIRING
AT ICCS HELICOPTER DESCRIBED IN PARA 5 BELOW) AND THREE MININGS.

2. CASUALTIES REPORTED WERE NO RVNAF KILLED AND EIGHT WOUNDED,
WHILE KNOWN VC/ NVA LOSSES WERE FOUR KILLED. ONE SOUTHERN VC
FEMALE RALLIED IN BEN CAT DISTRICT, BINH DUONG, ON 17 JUNE.

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FIVE ARVN OFFICERS ESCAPED FROM A COMMUNIST POW CAGE IN BO DUC DISTRICT, PHUOC LONG, AND MADE THEIR WAY TO GVN- CONTROLLED PHUOC BINH DISTRICT ON JUNE 16. THEY ARE CURRENTLY UNDERGOING SCREENING AND DEBRIEFING.

3. FOUR OF SEVEN GROUND CONTACTS TOOK PLACE IN DAT DO AND DUC THANH DISTRICTS, PHUOC TUY, WHERE PORTIONS OF INTERPROVINCIAL ROUTE 2 REMAIN CONTESTED. FOUR VC/ NVA WERE KILLED AND SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL WEAPONS CAPTURED. RVNAF PATROLS WERE FIRED ON OR DETONATED MINES IN LONG KHANH, TAY NINH, BIEN HOA, AND LONG AN.

4. RUMORS ABOUND IN TRANG BANG AND CU CHI DISTRICTS, HAU HGHIA, TRADITIONAL VC STRONGHOLD, THAT VC TROOPS WILL ATTACK LOCAL TERRITORIAL FORCE UNITS ON ARMED FORCES DAY JUNE 19. FAMILIES IN GIA LOC AND LOC HUNG RECEIVED LEAFLET WARNINGS NOT TO DISPLAY THE GVN FLAG ON JUNE 19. A PLATOON- SIZE VC GUERRILLA UNIT INFILTRATED LOC GIANG VILLAGE, TRANG BANG DISTRICT, DURING NIGHT JUNE 15 AND ESTABLISHED DEFENSIVE POSITIONS, AND A COMPANY SIZE UNIT ALSO INFILTRATED PHUOC HIEP VILLAGE, CU CHI DISTRICT DURING JUNE 15. BOTH UNITS ARE FULLY ARMED AND COMPOSED OF RECENTLY RECRUITED YOUTHS BETWEEN 14 AND 18 YEARS OLD.

5. TWO ICCS HELICOPTERS WERE FIRED UPON BY AK-47 AT XT790490 12 KM N OF LAI KHE OVER PRG- CONTROLLED PORTION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY 13 AROUND 1300 JUNE 17 WHILE ON RESUPPLY MISSION TO AN LOC TEAM SITE. HUNGDEL AND CANDEL REGION V CHIEFS WERE AMONG THOSE ON BOARD. HELICOPTERS WERE CLEARLY MARKED AS BELONGING TO ICCS AND WERE ABOUT 500 FEET DIRECTLY ABOVE HIGHWAY 13 WHEN FIRED UPON. ONE HELICOPTER TOOK ONE ROUND THROUGH FUSELAGE WITHOUT CAUSING CASUALTIES OR OTHER DAMAGE, AND BOTH HELICOPTERS PROCEEDED TO AN LOC, WHERE THEY REMAIN UNTIL ICCS OBTAINS BETTER SECURITY GUARANTEES FOR THEIR RETURN.

6. BECAUSE OF THIS INCIDENT, RECONNAISSANCE OF XA MAT POE, SCHEDULED FOR TODAY, HAS BEEN POSTPONED. A CANDEL TOLD CONSUL THAT INDONESIANS DO NOT WANT TO MOVE INTO XA MAT, WHILE CANADIANS ARE UNENTHUSIASTIC BUT WILL GO IF POLGARIANS DO, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN PERFECT RECORD OF HAVING TRIED TO
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MAKE ICCS WORK. FOR THIS REASON, CANDELS PLAN ALSO TO MOVE INTO DUC CO. CANADIANS REPORT POLGARIANS AS EXTREMELY EAGER TO MOVE INTO XA MAT, WHICH REPORTEDLY IS NOW A PRG COMMUNICATION RELAY CENTER BETWEEN SAIGON AND HANOI.

7 NEITHER CANDEL NOR INDODEL COULD SUMMON UP MUCH ENTHUSIASM FOR PROSPECTS THAT NEW JOINT COMMUNIQUE WILL BE CARRIED OUT,

IN CONVERSATION MORNING JUNE 18 WITH CONGEN. INDODEL
WAS " PESSIMISTIC" WHILE CANDEL THOUGHT IT WAS " TOO EARLY TO
TELL." WALKINSHAW
WHITEHOUSE

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

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